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89-3729

OS REGISTRY

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08 SEP 1989

6 September 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR:

FROM:

Information Management Division/OIT

SUBJECT: Trip Report--Review of Files in the Rockefeller Vault
Pocantico, New York

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1. At the request of [] Office of General Counsel, and [] CIA Archivist, the undersigned traveled to the Rockefeller Estate in Pocantico, New York, to review three (4 drawer) safes containing records accumulated during Nelson Rockefeller's tenure as the Vice President of the United States. The objective of the trip was to conduct a page by page review of the records for the purpose of identifying all TOP SECRET (TS) documents and Sensitive Compartmented Information (SCI) material contained in the collection and separating them from the SECRET and below papers.

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2. In our review on 28 and 29 August, we found multiple agency originated documents and correspondence of all classifications

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3. A good part of the files consisted of Murphy Commission and Rockefeller Commission papers, as well as correspondence prepared by Captain Jonathan Howe, the Military Assistant to the Vice President, most of the material being addressed to the Vice President. Also, included were finished intelligence documents on various issues prepared by CIA or jointly with other Intelligence Community agencies. In addition were background papers, briefing books, and biographical sketches for Mr. and Mrs. Rockefeller's travels and visits to foreign countries. Within the entire collections, we found only a very small number of comments/annotations by the Vice President.

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4. A total of 327 TS and SCI documents were uncovered. File folders containing the TS and SCI documents were flagged with a yellow strip of paper stapled to the folder. The TS and SCI documents were removed from within each file and placed separately in the front of the respective file folder to facilitate the removal of these documents at a later date. Also, a previously prepared index was used and expanded to record the location of these documents to include more detail as follows:

- Tab A--Index of files from Captain Howe's Office.
- Tab B--Index of the Murphy Commission papers showing classification of each book.
- Tab C--Index of Murphy Commission chronological files showing safe number and file drawer.
- Tab D--Index to pertinent Murphy Commission records prior to the VP becoming a member.
- Tab E--A listing of files relating to the Operations Coordinations Board and Psychological Warfare Strategy. (These were accumulated in 1955 while Mr. Rockefeller was Special Assistant to President Eisenhower).
- Tab F--Index of materials in the military office of the Vice President entitled Peter J. Wallison.

5. During our most delightful luncheon conversations with Mrs. Rockefeller, indications are that she will have little or no interest in the Murphy Commission or Rockefeller files once she has been assured that these files contain no personal or family type information.

6. My recommendations for follow-up actions to complete this project are:

- a. Arrange with the legal firm for the immediate removal of the Top Secret and Codeword material--bring to Headquarters for declassification process and/or return to originator. (If any material was to be downgraded to Secret and below, and if of possible interest to Mrs. R, then return to her for a final review and disposition).
- b. Grant Mrs. Rockefeller a Secret clearance. Also, another member of her staff should be granted a Secret clearance for logistical purposes. (This individual could open the safes, deliver the material to Mrs. R. for review, and then return to safes for storage/security until all documents have been reviewed and final dispositions have been determined and agreed upon).
- c. Prepare a worksheet for Mrs. R's use in review of the files. This could be a check sheet format; showing:

I would like to retain _____
Return to originator _____
Donate to a Presidential library _____
Donate to a University _____
Etc.

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- d. Provide her with a copy of the index listings of files. (After seeing index and noting that most of the material is strictly Government matter, she may indicate no interest in review of certain files).
7. Mrs. R. was most anxious to get started on reviewing these files. Seems that she has received many requests for information on Mr. R. that writers and historians could use in doing Bios on him.
8. If we can be of further assistance with this project, please advise.

cc: OGC,

IMD/OIT,

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